

**Appl. No. 10/669,165**  
**Amdt. dated July 25, 2005**  
**Reply to Office action of February 25, 2005**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A nut assembly for use on a wrench having a handle, a shank, and a jaw, the nut assembly comprising:

a nut having threads that ~~for~~ matingly engageing the shank of the wrench and grooves that ~~for~~ allowing the shank of the wrench to slide freely ~~there~~ through said nut; and

a spring surrounding said nut, said spring ~~for biasing~~ biases said nut to a position where the shank of the wrench is locked in place.

2. (Original) The nut assembly according to claim 1 wherein said nut comprises at least two grooves located 180 degrees apart.

3. (Original) The nut assembly according to claim 1 wherein said spring terminates on the handle of the wrench proximate to said nut.

4. (Currently Amended) The nut assembly according to claim 1 further ~~including~~ comprising a set of stop pins located on the exterior of said nut which provide positive stopping mechanism of the nut.

5. (Original) The nut assembly according to claim 4 wherein said nut comprises at least two stop pins are located 180 degrees apart.

6. (Currently Amended) An adjustable pipe wrench comprising:  
a handle having a fixed jaw portion on one end;  
a shank having an adjustable jaw portion opposite said fixed jaw portion;  
and

a nut assembly, wherein said nut assembly comprises:

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a nut having threads that for matingly engaging said shank and  
grooves that for allowing said shank to slide freely therethrough said nut;  
and

a spring surrounding said nut, said spring for biasing-biases said  
nut to a position where said shank is locked in place.

7.- 13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A nut assembly for use on a wrench comprising:

a nut having threads that matingly engage a shank of the wrench and  
grooves that allow the shank of the wrench to slide freely through the nut; and

a spring coupled to the nut, wherein the spring is configured to continuously  
bias the nut toward a matingly engaged relationship with the shank when the nut is  
arranged to allow the shank to slide freely through the nut.

15. (New) The nut assembly according to claim 14 wherein said nut comprises  
at least two grooves located 180 degrees apart.

16. (New) The nut assembly according to claim 14 wherein said spring  
terminates on the handle of the wrench proximate to said nut.

17. (New) The nut assembly according to claim 14 further comprising a set of  
stop pins located on the exterior of said nut which provide positive stopping  
mechanism of the nut.

18. (New) The nut assembly according to claim 17 wherein said nut comprises  
at least two stop pins that are located 180 degrees apart.

19 (New) An adjustable pipe wrench comprising:  
a handle having a fixed jaw portion on one end;

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\_\_\_\_\_ a shank having an adjustable jaw portion opposite said fixed jaw portion;  
and

\_\_\_\_\_ a nut assembly, wherein said nut assembly comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a nut having threads that matingly engage a shank of the wrench  
and grooves that allow the shank of the wrench to slide freely through the  
nut; and

\_\_\_\_\_ a spring coupled to the nut, wherein the spring is configured to  
continuously bias the nut toward a matingly engaged relationship with the  
shank when the nut is arranged to allow the shank to slide freely through  
the nut.